

National Troopers Coalition

The Honorable Robert Menendez United States Senator 1 Gateway Center Suite 1100 Newark, NJ 07102

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ANDREW MATTHEWS, Esq. (CT) **Executive Director**

Letter of Support: SMART ACT (S. 3752)

May 27, 2020

Dear Senator Menendez,

The National Troopers Coalition (NTC) represents over 40,000 State Troopers from 38 states around the country and we are the only national organization that solely represents the interests of State Trooper and Highway Patrol Associations. On behalf of our State Troopers we want to recognize you for your leadership and offer our support for your SMART ACT proposal.

As everyone in congress is aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for all State Police agencies around the country. In addition to the inherent dangers associated with being a Trooper, our members are now susceptible to the COVID-19 virus in the performance of our sworn duties to protect and serve the public.

The extreme loss of tax revenues coupled with unforeseen costs brought onto government entities by the response to the COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to have an extremely detrimental effect on public safety and law and order across our nation. As a result, the NTC commends you for having the leadership skills necessary to find creative solutions, which are included in your proposal of the SMART Act. Funding is not only critical to the preservation of law enforcement staffing levels, but ultimately to the protection of life and property. We are grateful for your leadership during these difficult and uncertain times.

Thank you for considering our position on this vital legislation. We stand by ready to assist you or your staff to make this Bill a reality. Again, we thank you for your continued support for public safety and our Troopers who put their lives on the line every day to keep our country safe.

Be safe,

Jimmy Chavez Chairman